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Dreams do come true

Tara and Andrew Schroeder stand outside their new food truck, The Mason Jar, just before opening day. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

The Mason Jar's burgers a smash hit

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Editor

Tara Schroeder and her husband Andrew moved to the county three years ago to help her parents' cottage rental business on Hall's Lake. Tara has many years of experience managing and working in front of house, and building a business including the website development work involved.

"I'm very familiar with the area," says Schroeder. "I used to come up since I was a young child visiting my grandparents."

The Mason Jar Food Co. opened on April 22 to an enthusiastic crowd and long lines.

"Our nephew's name is Mason," says Schroeder. "And so ever since my husband went to culinary school and has grown in his culinary expertise, Mason has been so encouraging to Andrew. Honestly, we thought of him. It was just one night when we were talking, and that name stuck for us." In addition to the familial connection, the concept of a mason jar evokes the ideas of home cooking, says Schroeder.

"That's a lot of what we're doing. The things Andrew's making from scratch. Not everything is coming out of a box or a bag."

"My husband went to culinary school a number of years ago," says Schroeder. "So, he has always been in the food industry, as have I. Really, since we've been married it's always been a dream of ours to run our own business and, namely, run a food truck business.

Schroeder and her husband were attracted to the location of Lola's Meal Stop and Snack Shop located at the corner of Highway

see MINDEN'S page 3

Township seeks injunction on Maple Lake access restrictions

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Algonquin Highlands is turning to the courts to settle a dispute about public access to Maple Lake.

The fracas stems from private individuals allegedly restricting public use of shoreline road allowances. It's been an ongoing dispute since at least February.

The township said in a statement April 4 that it "has had to revert to the unprecedented step of initiating legal action against such individuals."

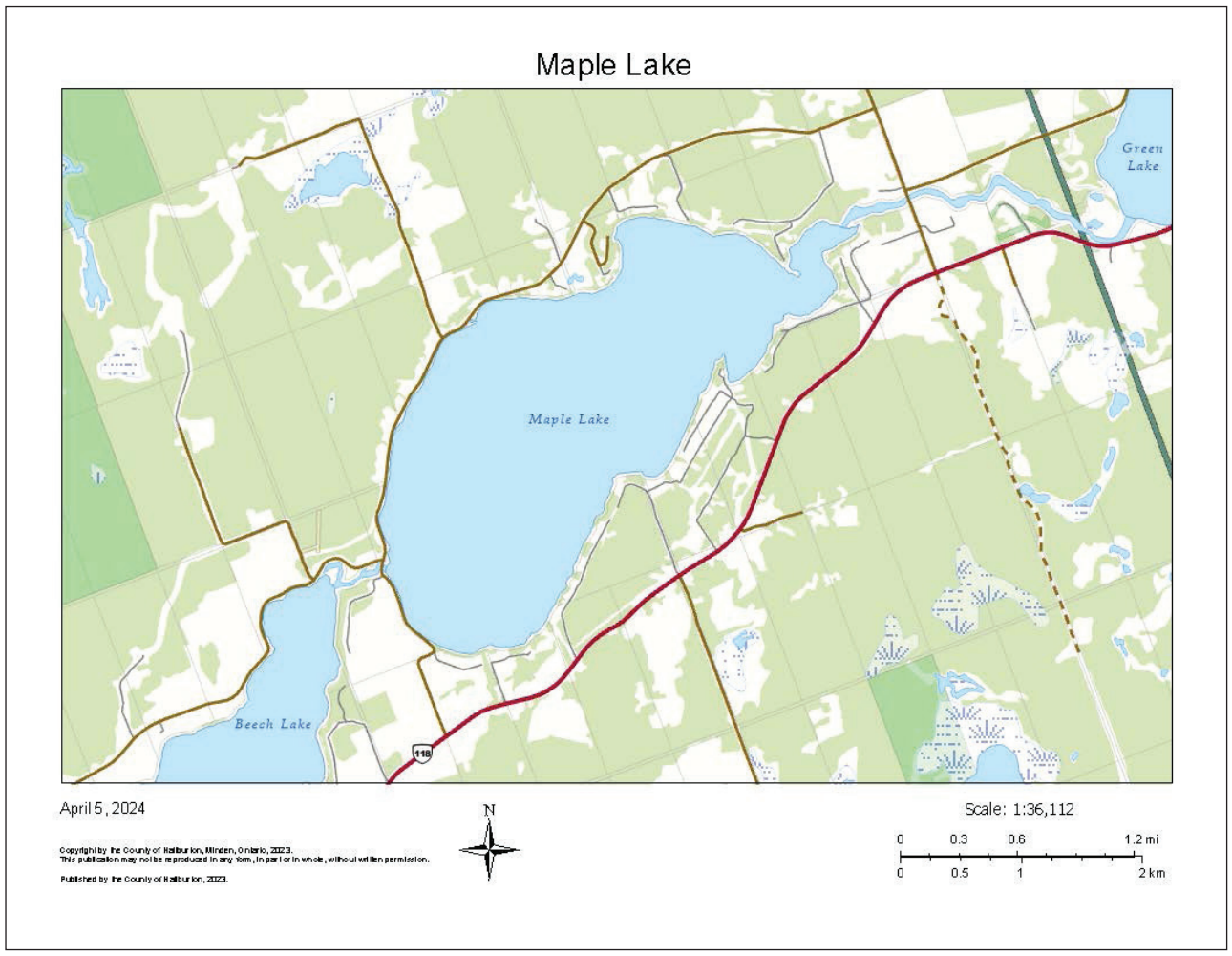
The municipality seeks an injunction on the alleged activity that relates to the obstruction or occupation of parts of the shoreline road allowances around Maple Lake. "Extensive research by legal professionals and Ontario land surveyors has confirmed the land in question is a municipal shore road allowance," the statement read.

"All road allowances, including shoreline road allowances within the geographical jurisdiction of the Township of Algonquin Highlands are, as per Section 28(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, under the ownership and jurisdiction of the municipality except where they have been closed and conveyed in accordance with applicable legislation." The statement adds that such lands are to be made available to all members to pass over without obstruction or hinderance in order to gain access to public waterfront areas, public access areas, or public travel. Mayor Liz Danielsen said the April 4 press release is the only official statement that can be made while the matter is before the courts.

"It's an unfortunate situation and, even more so, given the time it takes to deal with an issue like this through the courts," Danielsen said.

In the statement, the township said being forced to take the costly step of seeking the assistance of the courts is regrettable. But it's necessary to ensure the public's right of free passage over public lands.

"The legal process is one that is not as expeditious as we would hope. However, it is the necessary process to be undertaken to ensure the protection of municipal land for the public."


Maple Lake
Maple Lake
Green Lake
Beech Lake
118
April 5, 2024
N
Scale: 1:36,112
0 0.3 0.6 1.2 mi
0 0.5 1 2 km
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Published by the County of Haliburton, 2023.

A February press release from the township referenced "ongoing events" near a public access to the lake along North Shore Road near its intersection with Dawson Road.

"This property has traditionally been used, for decades, for emergency access and ice fishing," the statement said. "A small group of area residents is making claims they own the property and have been expressing this to members of the public attempting to access the lake."

There's been much misinformation being circulated in the community and on social media channels regarding private ownership claims. Those claims have not been corroborated through any documentation.

"If members of the public feel harassed or threatened at any time while accessing this property, they are encouraged to contact the Haliburton Highlands OPP who are aware of the ongoing issues," the township said in February.

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Warden's breakfast is back

Liz Danielsen discussed housing, transportation, and other key issues plaguing the county at the Warden's Breakfast on April 23. /THOMAS SMITH Staff

Minden's funnel cake destination

from page 1

35 and 118.

"It's a very busy intersection," says Schroeder. "Years driving by there, I had always thought that'd be the perfect place for a food truck and so when the opportunity presented itself, we jumped at it."

"It was, I think, in February. We honestly just reached out to the previous owners and asked if they had ever thought about potentially selling the truck and it was so cool how it came about. They were like, that is so crazy that you contacted us because we were just talking about what our next steps were gonna be. It kind of just spiraled and happened really quickly."

They weren't selling it," says Schroeder. "They were planning to operate this year. It was by happenstance that the previous owners began considering selling their business."

"We just started the conversation with them and explained that we were really interested," says Schroeder. "That's my husband's vibe, he doesn't feel any shame in asking questions and in that regard it worked out"

Fortunately, the truck was in great shape and well taken care of.

"It was practically brand new. We just had to spruce up the outside," says Schroeder.

The process of renovating the outside of the truck took around a month.

"I like to play around with designs and we kind of just did it together and came up with it," says Schroeder. "We really wanted something that was woodsy, but in a minimalistic way. We didn't want anything busy or too colorful. We really just wanted to go with earthy tones, because of the area and the tourism. It's based on a lot of outdoor enthusiast things." Pinterest was Schroeder's biggest source of inspiration.

The menu was developed after securing their truck and location. The Schroeders took careful consideration of other restaurants in the area and other's menu offerings to ensure that they were not mimicking or stepping on anyone's toes.

"We developed it just based on the area and the needs," says Schroeder. "We started our Instagram and Facebook right away and we started developing our menu by asking the community what they wanted to see on our menu. We had a basic idea of what we thought the area needed and then we went from there."

"We did a lot of food testing," says Schroeder with a laugh. "We have been changing our menu up to four days ago before we secured everything."

"Based on our logo design and on our concept, smash burgers are something we want to bring to the area and we're hopeful to be known for our funnel cakes. Those are the two main things."

The parking lot was full on opening day on April 22. Due to overwhelming demand, their online ordering system had to be put on hold in order to complete orders. /THOMAS SMITH Staff

"We've never seen a funnel cake anywhere in this area at all. To our knowledge, we hadn't. We really wanted to try something fun for the community and we really hope it will become a destination place for funnel cakes in the summer."

Luckily, the food truck came equipped with a massive donut and funnel cake fryer, says Schroeder.

"That's where the inspiration came from," says Schroeder.

To begin, the Mason Jar Food Co. will focus on their current menu, but the Schroeders will keep eyes and ears open for experimentation in the future.

"Our plan is to run it year-round, how that is going to look, we are still looking through that," says Schroeder.

Schroeder takes great pride in her development work on the website and is excited to show off their online ordering system.

Despite the accelerated process of purchasing the business and renovations, Schroeder says that they have not had too many roadblocks.

"Nailing down what we want to serve people, I would say that has been the biggest challenge," says Schroeder. "It's been a dream of mine in particular to build something that is ours, for my husband and I. That has been the most rewarding experience. Also, getting to know the community. We have had so much interaction with the community since starting this process. It's great to meet so many new faces. Everyone is just so kind here."

Schroeder says that folks visited the truck without it being open yet.

"They come by, and they just welcome us and it's so encouraging," says Schroeder. "Especially with our branded shirts, we get stopped all the time. It's just encouraging that people take the time to encourage us."

"The slogan of our brand is Spread joy. Eat well. We want people to really feel our love for serving others, because that is something we are really passionate about. This isn't just a job for us. We want people to feel really joyful when eating our food."

"I know we are serving smash burgers and funnel cakes which are not the healthiest things in the world, but we really want to incorporate fresh ingredients and menu items as well."

The Mason Jar Food Co. food truck will offer gluten friendly options including buns and fries that are gluten free. Although they are not certified gluten free, they will do their best to keep their gluten free options separate.

"People can always come up to the window and ask us and we have the knowledge to provide the information as to what is available for them. We are very approachable in that way and are happy to help with that."

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MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

• Connection and Response, an exhibit by conceptual artist Bruce Cull, will be on display until June 8 in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, 176 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden. Open Tuesday – Saturday, 10 AM - 4 PM. Admission is by donation. For more info: https://calendar.mindenhills.ca/default/Detail/2024-04-04-1000-Connection-and-Response-An-Exhibit-by-Bruce-Cull
• A Volunteer sign-up workshop will take place at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Thursday, April 25 from 4-6 pm. For information: https://calendar.mindenhills.ca/default/Detail/2024-04-25-1600-Volunteer-Sign-up-Workshop.

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COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL, IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person (Council Chambers) and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:
• **May 9** – Regular Council Meeting
• **May 30** – Regular Council Meeting
• **June 13** – Regular Council Meeting
• **June 27** – Regular Council Meeting
Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal at https://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx. Visit our website for more information.

SPRING LOAD RESTRICTIONS (HALF LOADS) IN EFFECT

Half Load weight restrictions are placed on roadways and posted each year in the spring for approximately 1-2 months. Persons contravening this regulation will be prosecuted under Section 122 of The Highway Traffic Act. Please watch for and obey posted signage. Visit www.mindenhills.ca for updates.

SPRING FITNESS REGISTRATION

Spring Yoga and Group Fitness Registration now open. To register please visit www.mindenhills.ca/recreation or in person at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena (55 Parkside St., Minden).

EARTH DAY CONTESTS

In support of Earth Day, the Township is running an Earth Day Contest, giving one Minden Hills resident an opportunity to win a new FoodCycler unit! Send us a picture of an eco-friendly initiative within Minden Hills such as a roadside clean up, and your name will be entered into a draw to win a FoodCycler unit. Include the location details of your eco-friendly initiative.

Also in celebration of Earth Day, the Township has an Earth Day colouring contest. Stop by the Township Office or any waste disposal site to pick up a colouring page. All submissions are to be emailed to ccosh@mindenhills.ca. Deadline to submit your entries is April 30, 2024.

NO DAYTIME BURNING – MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPT

No daytime burning from April 1st to October 31st in any year. It is considered fire season. Fire restrictions are from 7:00 AM till 7:00 PM (daytime burning). No person shall start a fire outdoors during the restricted time in fire season.

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Parents angered over bussing changes

by THOMAS SMITH
Editor

Recently, there have been concerns regarding the TLDB's policy changes to bussing students in Haliburton County. Elementary students as young as the age of four years old will be required to walk if they live within 1.6 kilometres from their school. Carolynne Bull, manager of communications for TLDSB was reached for comment.

"Over the past several years, TLDSB has been reviewing historical exception areas with previously identified conditions. These were areas where students may not have been expected to walk to school. Transportation Services, in consultation with the TLDSB senior administration, have reviewed exception areas annually including in Bracebridge, Huntsville, Kirkfield, Kilworthy, Fenelon Falls, and this year Haliburton, to determine if the conditions still exist and make changes where appropriate. The review could not identify the reason for this historical exception, however it was noted that the conditions in the villages of Minden and Haliburton are similar to those in other areas of review and similar to the conditions across TLDSB for schools without any exception areas. The reviews ensure, that in the absence of any known hazards, the transportation walk to school distances of 1.6 km for JK to Grade 8 students and 3.2 km for secondary students are being equitably applied across the Board."

"TLDSB is predominantly a rural board so the walking conditions within each municipality are considered and areas similar to Haliburton such as the villages of Kirkfield and Kilworthy have also been reviewed. Changes to student transportation eligibility have resulted from the route review process in these communities as well," says Bull. "All reviews have identified suitable conditions for students to walk to school with normal conditions such as crossing the street."

Students that are within the walk zone of a school and are currently receiving transportation will no longer be eligible for bussing this coming school year. Families were notified by letter regarding this change, says Bull.

Not so bored boardwalk walk

The 2nd Minden Spark/Ember/Guide/Pathfinder Unit cleaned up the Minden Riverwalk last week. The girls donned gloves to pick up garbage and enjoyed the walk surrounded by nature and the community. /Submitted

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Archie Stouffer's Grade 5 students celebrate Earth Day

Grade 5 students and Mr. Lamplugh were accompanied by Minden Hills staff to clean Deep Bay Road from the intersection at Bobcaygeon Road to the hospital. /THOMAS SMITH Staff

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InOtherWords

Columns and Letters to the Editor

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Impasses and widowmakers

I WAS MET with some impasses this weekend. I woke up Saturday morning bright-eyed and bushy tailed, eager to take on the day, for it was my birthday.

Then the darkness came. It felt fitting that the warm spring weather would be taken from me on my birthday

The world seems mockingly cruel. For me, the winter brings seasonal affective disorder where I need to sit in front of a lamp of artificial sunshine for my brain to work properly.

Even on my birthday, something wanted to remind me of the impasses that I face in life.

I got hiking shoes for my birthday.

THOMAS SMITH
Editor

To break them in, I went to Snowdon Park with my brother. Our destination: a 1972 Lincoln Town Car.

Upon entry to Snowdon Park, I found a visitor book that I happily signed. My signature can be found beside "Thomas Age 6", where I have started the area's first ever Thomas club sign-up sheet.

After leaving the information kiosk, I crossed the bridge up to the viewing platform. A funny thing, this bridge. Like a fun house, it seems as though it has been built on an angle. When walking on it, you feel like you have had one too. Luckily, the black flies and no-see-ums have not emerged yet, but the frogs were certainly singing a raucous, yet somehow voluptuary diddy.

Upon departure from the viewing platform, I was transported into a fantastical wonderland of moss and wood. Venturing deeper into the greenwood, I came across an ancient stone fence marking (ancient being from around 1900, when land was deeded from the crown to private individuals). It is unsure who made the stone boundary markings, according to historical records.

Curiously, there is an old well in the forest that was not marked on the map. I thought they must be hiding the good stuff for themselves.

I have been advised to say that you should not drink mysterious stagnant well water you find in forests. There was also a lack of border collies on standby to notify authorities for when a child falls in it.

Walking through Snowdon park feels magical to me, I sense a connection to something greater than myself that I cannot put a name to. I am happy to be able to connect with nature and forest bathe. (Something called 'shinrin-yoku' you can look up for yourselves, I assure you I was mostly clothed the entire time). A sense of guilt washes over me as I recognize that I am foreign to this land. Traditionally the area was hunting lands for the Algonquin, Huron, and Haudenosaunee. An emotional impasse everyone must face before reconciliation.

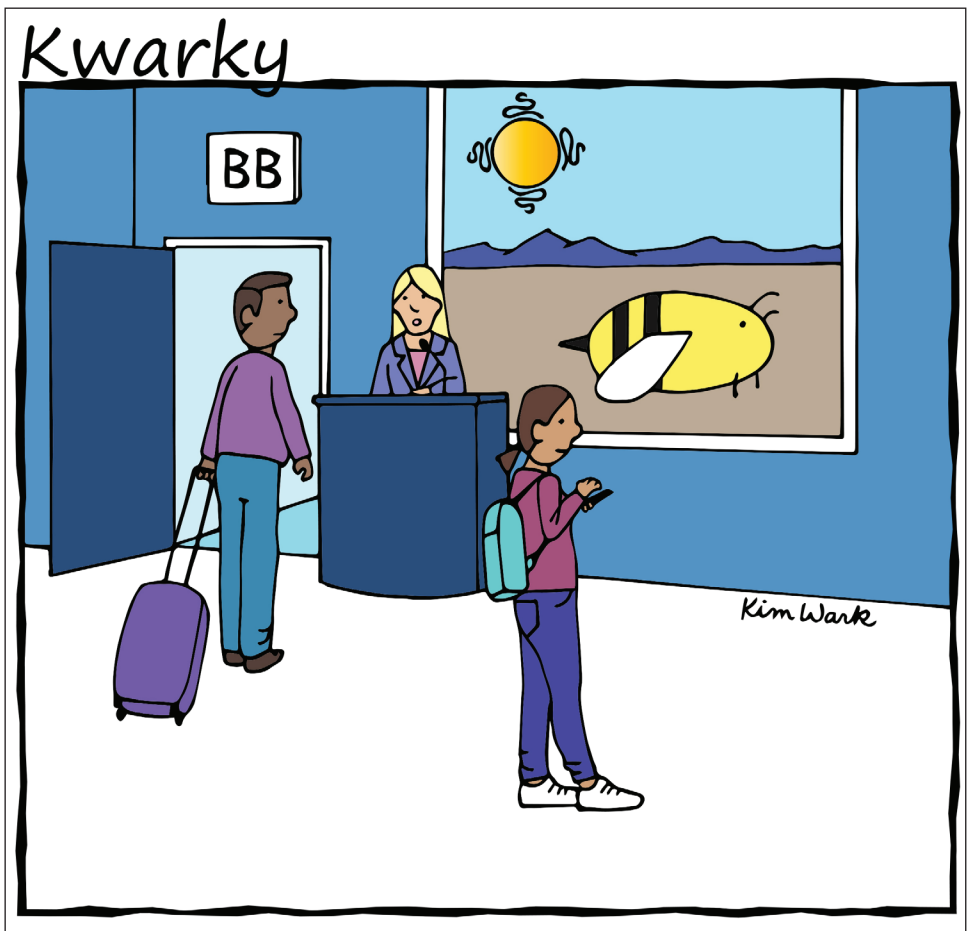
Dredging through mud and fighting off my brother who had not eaten dinner yet, I could sense the car was close.

However, about a kilometre away from our destination, we noticed there were trees that had been toppled over. Dozens of widowmakers that had snapped in the windstorm a few weeks prior.

Uneased, we came across a large tree that had recently fallen across the trail.

A literal impasse blocked my path. I decided to overcome this another day. My new hiking shoes had been christened with a healthy coating of mud and with the sun going down, we decided to turn around.

For this impasse in my life, help will be needed. Perhaps I should have told the township before this editorial...



"This is the indirect flight of the bumblebee."

Early season fi ... ffffi ... fishing ...

IT SEEMED like a good idea at the time. Then again, I'm sure that's what the guys who let the Trojan Horse past the gate said too.

But, it turns out it wasn't a good idea at all. For when we got out of our canoe on that small brook trout lake, the only thing caught was a chill. And since I am an angler, I am going to tell you we caught a limit.

Why did we get the chills?

Perhaps it had something to do with temperatures that hovered slightly above zero. Or the gusts that often approached 50 kilometres per hour. Or maybe the slow leak and insidious puddle that had formed in the bottom of the canoe.

STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

It could have been all those things. But I think it had more to do with the fact that we were playing the fishing version of chicken.

Most anglers are familiar with this.

Basically, no one involved in any fishing expedition wants to be the one who backs out first. Unless, you don't mind hearing about it forever.

Fishing chicken is something that anglers do all the time. Yet, it's rare that it gets this far. That's because usually, in any duo of fishing buddies, there is at least one with a modicum of common sense.

That was not the case this time, though.

At best, there was a lick of common sense between us – which, as any rural person knows, is far less than a modicum. If memory serves well, there are 4536 licks in one modicum. But what do I know? I've been told I have neither.

The point is, once on the lake, we cast flies everywhere, not because it was effective, but rather because it was another way to try to keep warm. And we paddled around the lake from windbreaks to windbreak. And we said things, between shivers, like, "B ... bbb ... boy ... it's good to be out on the water again huh?"

And it was.

But you know what was way better? Getting off the water.

Yet, before we got to hug the heated seats of the truck, we had to find a way to agree to do this simultaneously – again so no one could claim victory in the game of chicken we were playing.

That's why, when my buddy said, "You know, I'm thinking that maybe we should call…"

I finished the sentence, by yelping "it a morning."

Then we both nodded and paddled furiously back to the warmth of the vehicle.

"Well, we have the first outing of the season under our belts," he said, on the drive home.

"Yes, it was a wonderfully refreshing too," I said as I slowly thawed.

"I could have easily stayed a few more hours," he commented.

"Oh, me too," I replied. "I love fishing on days like today."

"Yes, too bad the fish weren't cooperating," he answered.

But we both knew that it wasn't too bad. Moreover, we also understood that we owed the fish a debt of gratitude. For if we had experienced even one little nibble, we would have stayed out there for far too long.

But we didn't. And while that made us a little sad – at least when we sat in the truck neither of us were blue.

InOtherWords

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Life without bugs

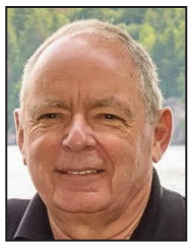
THIS WON'T come as a surprise: After a mild winter and wet spring it's going to be a banner year for bugs.

Experts say the mild winter allowed more adult bugs to survive and lay eggs early.

Moisture-loving insects need water to survive and reproduce. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in stagnant water and April rainfalls have created and abundance of breeding pools. Black flies also need water to reproduce but when they lay eggs on water, they like it to be moving.

Whatever their numbers, bugs and the irritations they bring are with us every summer. Forecasts are for more of them in summers to come.

Climate change is creating more warm weather that will increase bug populations in areas where they have not been common. It also brings out bugs earlier, giving them more time to reproduce.



JIM POLING SR.
From Shaman's Rock

For example, the Southwestern Public Health unit in the London region reports eight ticks were brought to it for examination during the first two weeks of March this year. Last year only one tick was brought to the unit in all of March.

Changes in climate and bug populations are raising concern about diseases spread by insects. Mosquitoes in more southern areas carry malaria, while Lyme disease spread by ticks has been increasing in parts of Canada.

Canadian public health units reported 144 human cases of Lyme disease in 2009 and a whopping increase to 2,544 in 2023. Just short of 20,000 cases of Lyme disease in humans were reported across the country between 2009 and 2023.

Not all ticks carry the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. In Ontario only blacklegged ticks (also called deer ticks) are a danger.

These ticks are mostly found in southern Ontario but travel on birds and deer who spread them to other parts of the province. Lyme disease cases now have been found in Orillia and just north of there.

The mild winter has helped increase the numbers of other insects as well. People are reporting seeing more ladybugs, cluster flies, stink bugs and box-elder bugs in and around their homes.

While some of us are annoyed by increasing numbers of biting insects, etymologists are concerned about decreasing numbers of bugs in some parts of the world.

Scientists estimate 40 per cent of insect species are in decline and one-third are endangered. They say that pesticides, habitat loss and climate change are causing the population declines.

An analysis of some insect studies has concluded that global insect populations have declined by 45 per cent in the past 40 years. Analysis of other studies conclude that more insect population declines may lead to extinction of 40 per cent of the world's bugs over the next few decades.

There is disagreement among scientists about the accuracy of these various studies and analyses. Numbers vary widely with some reports showing dramatic decreases in bug populations in some areas, but increases in others.

Whatever is happening with insect populations, it is time for all of us to start paying more attention to them and the things that could cause their populations to decrease.

Insects are the largest part of the world's animal kingdom, accounting for up to 90 per cent of all animal species. They pollinate many of our vegetables, fruits and flowers and provide many useful products such as beeswax, silk and honey.

Without insects much of the food feeding fish, birds and humans would disappear.

E. O Wilson the famous American biologist who died in 2021 summed it up best when he wrote:

"If all mankind were to disappear, the world would regenerate back to the rich state of equilibrium that existed ten thousand years ago. If insects were to vanish, the environment would collapse into chaos."

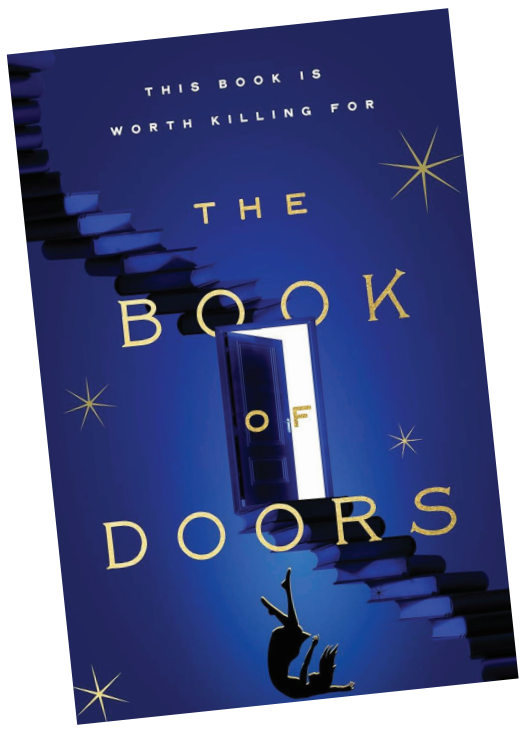
Koala bear cubs and deer fawns are cute and cuddly so we view them with awe and give them much kindly attention. Insects are much more important to life on earth but we view them as useless, irritating pests.

The mosquitoes and blackflies will be out any time now – buzzing about our ears and stinging and biting. Unpleasant, certainly, but life without them would be very different – if there was life at all.

Minden Memories

The Rockcliffe Hotel in the 1940s. /Photo courtesy of Minden Hills Cultural Centre

HCPL's Book of the Week



In New York City, bookseller Cassie Andrews is living an unassuming life until the day one of her favorite customers – a lonely yet charming old man – dies right in front of her. In his possession is a book inscribed with enigmatic words and mysterious drawings, promising Cassie that any door is every door. You just need to know how to open them.

Cassie soon discovers that this is the Book of Doors and it is a special book that bestows extraordinary powers. But there are those willing to go to any lengths to possess it. Hunted by underground rare book collectors, Cassie begins an adventure that will change everything she thought she knew about the world.

The Book of Doors by Gareth Brown is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.

Efficiencies in coordinated waste management: consultant

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A service delivery review recommends that waste management across the four lower-tier municipalities be delivered by Haliburton County.

John Watson, Dysart's environmental manager, walked county council through a report April 10 into a single-tier waste management service delivery review.

County council decided to distribute the report to the municipalities and solicit feedback. The issue will be brought back to the county in late May.

Waste management is an increasingly complex, and expensive, component of municipal services. The county's four lower-tier municipalities manage waste programs with large geographic boundaries and small population sizes.

Contracts are issued individually by each municipality and include such services as waste hauling and processing, site attendants, and environmental monitoring and reporting.

Where waste management varies between the townships is in disposal fees, garbage bag limits, policies, and procedures. Those variations can confuse some residents and business owners.

"Promotion and education efforts are challenged by conflicting practices," Watson said. "Waste management is an increasingly complex and expensive component of municipal services."

Some collaborative initiatives exist between the four lower-tier townships, but each municipality is responsible for implementing them. Those initiatives include the Haliburton Waste Wizard online and mobile app and Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days.

The county hired Dillon Consulting Ltd. in March 2023 to conduct a waste management service delivery review and to look into the feasibility of a single tier service model. Throughout their work, staff at the townships provided input and feedback.

The final report analyzed the concept of providing waste management services under a single administration at the upper tier level. A coordinated delivery model would provide dedicated staff to plan and operate waste management services.

In a coordinated approach, all waste management functions that are currently managed individually by each lower-tier municipality would be centralized. Common services would be recovered through user fees and the county rate tax levy.

The consultants recommended waste management services be administered by a coordinating committee at the start before it's taken over by county staff.

The consultants' final report states that the transition of responsibilities could occur over one to two years with the harmonization of services occurring over a longer timeframe.

Beth Goodger, a waste management consultant with Dillon Consultants, said an incredible amount of work went into the service delivery final report.

"You're very rich in terms of waste management facilities," she said.

Across the county there are 10 active landfills and eight transfer stations. There is environmental monitoring carried out by assisting consulting companies at 20 closed landfills.

"There are a lot of options," Goodger said. "At the core though is that, with the exception of a small group of around 250 homes, you have no curbside collection."

Waste management cost $4.37 million in 2023, and that was funded from collected taxes in the four municipalities, tipping fees, and charges at the sites.

"It's quite a bit of money that's being spent when you look at the collective budgets," she said.

There is also almost $10 million spent in landfill liability costs amongst the townships. That's for closure costs of existing landfills.

"There is a considerable amount of investment in waste management services when you look collectively at the four municipalities," Goodger said.

She said the service review confirmed there would be customer service and operational benefits in a coordinated delivery across the county.

"Consistent service levels improves that user experience and it really improves diversion from landfills," she said. "And that is your biggest asset for the communities, the landfill capacity and preserving that."

"There's no question about it that waste management has become so much more complex over the last few years and that much more challenging for the folks that are working for us," said Warden Liz Danielsen, Algonquin Highlands' mayor.

She said it seems all the options in the final delivery review report lean towards the county taking over waste management.

"Which is something that we need to have considerable conversation about," Danielsen said.

Councillor Walt McKechnie, the deputy mayor of Dysart, said he cares a great deal about the environment. One of the points he took from the delivery review was that more waste will come in the future as more people move to the region.

"I cannot believe that we're not talking about incinerating garbage in this day and age, especially in rural Ontario," McKechnie said. "They're not going to let us build any more landfill sites."

"Incineration wasn't part of the scope of the project," Goodger said.

Coun. Murray Fearrey, Dysart's mayor, said the report alluded to money that could be saved by the municipalities practicing joint procurement of materials. But, he said, it's been shown in the past that isn't always the case.

Coun. Jennifer Dailloux, the deputy mayor of Algonquin Highlands, said a single tier system for waste management would be best if there are cost savings across the board, an improved user experience, and operational efficiencies.

"Those three together, they're like the trifecta of what would make it worthwhile to transition to a fully single tier government system," Dailloux said.

Coun. Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, said he doesn't see a compelling argument to consolidate waste services to the county level. The municipalities and the county has shown that they can collaborate through hazard waste collection and other efforts.

There isn't many commodities to be purchased in waste management that would necessitate joint procurement.

"I'm not really seeing a lot of the savings beyond what we're capable of doing right now," Carter said.

Health unit pushes students to update immunizations

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Public health officials are stepping up efforts to ensure students get vaccinated.

Additional "catch-up" clinics are being held and walk-in patients are welcomed as part of that effort, said Dr. Natalie Bocking, the medical officer of health and CEO at Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

"If there's a family that shows up at the school or they can get to the health units, we vaccinate them on the spot," she said. "We're working with health care providers to try to minimize any additional barriers to accessing vaccines."

She said 3,596 letters were sent in early March to families to remind them to ensure their child's vaccination records are current. Those were all elementary students except Grade 3.

Of that number, there were 2,890 students whose parents had yet to supply updated records by March 20. By April 15, there were 2,162 students that hadn't provided proof of vaccination. Bocking said letters will be sent at the end of April to notify parents about their child's possible suspension from classrooms. The suspension date will be May 14.

Records from high school students and those in Grade 3 were received throughout last winter.

"We at the health unit are undertaking essentially full enforcement of the Immunization of School Pupils Act this year," she said.

For anybody wondering why there seems to be an urgency this time around to submit updated records, chalk that up to being another gut-punch delivered by the pandemic.

Student health records weren't collected over some years during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Health units across the province are now behind in collecting that information.

"There were also many kids that got behind in receiving their vaccines," Bocking said.

Health boards are working closely with school boards and individual principals to prevent student suspensions.

She said vaccinations become out of date at certain times during childhood. After all students are caught up with their immunizations, the next push will happen at age seven.

"There will still be kids every year that become the age that they will require their record to be submitted," Bocking said. "But not everybody. Everybody will be caught up at the end of this year."

The importance of current immunizations is evident in the occurrence of vaccine preventable illness such as measles and whooping cough.

Bocking said there continues to be sporadic cases of measles in the province and there's been three confirmed cases of whooping cough in nearby City of Kawartha Lakes.

The health unit is about to roll out a COVID-19 vaccine spring campaign.

"We do have a limited number of appointments through health unit clinics for COVID vaccine," Bocking said. "But, primarily, access will be through pharmacies for this spring campaign."

She said there's been an increase locally of COVID-19 infections.

"I think this is just something that we're going to continue to see, up and down, up and down," she said.

The two-edged sword of Insecurity

FAY MARTIN
Poke, Peel, Pair, Ponder

ASTRA TAYLOR gave the Massey Lecture this year on the Age of Insecurity. She's a bright young thing, talks very fast, twirls your mind like black licorice and leaves you with something to chew on. (Available wherever you get your podcasts, as they say.) I found myself nodding a lot!

Here's what she said in the first salvo that resonated with me:

One: insecurity is an existential component of life. It's hard-baked into the human condition. For good reason. Because the only way we can be protected from everything, have absolutely nothing to worry about, is to be dead. It is either both good and bad, or neither good nor bad. It just is – and it's integral to life. Taylor calls this existential insecurity.

Two: insecurity is an integral element of capitalism. The DNA of capitalism, its only reason for being, is to make money. This enables you to buy everything you may need. Capitalism seeks through blanket marketing to ensure that you will never feel confident that you have everything you need, that there will always be something, perhaps not even created yet, without which life is not good. Capitalism consistently sells insecurity. Taylor calls this manufactured insecurity.

Three: The only antidote for insecurity is community, the sense that someone/s has your back. Before capitalism took root and spread like crab grass, communities were self-sufficient. If we want to talk about what they didn't have – cell phones, processed food, airline travel – we must also include insecurity. The community collectively had what it needed to survive. When it didn't, it died. Which, as we've established, is the ultimate freedom from insecurity. Death in those cultures was very much part of life, not something that must be avoided at any cost. (Cost: got that?)

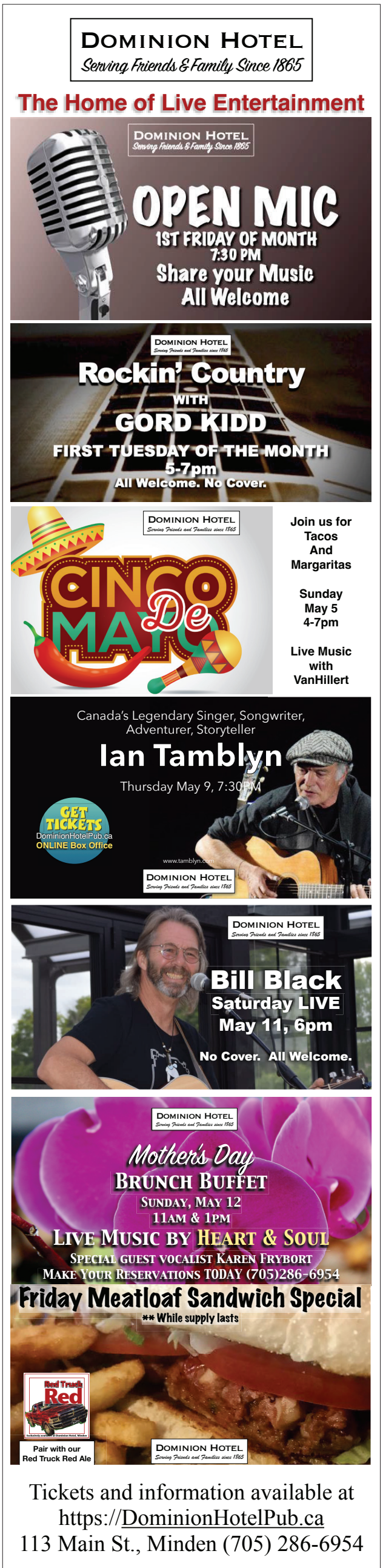
The rise of capitalism required the death of community – because capitalism requires insecurity and community addresses insecurity. In recent civilized history, this started with the Enclosure Movement, the methodical clawing back of the Commons to private ownership, which stole from Commoners the means to be self sufficient. Eventually Commoners were squeezed to the point where they had to exchange the only thing they owned, their labour, in order to survive. This birthed the Industrial Revolution which tipped the world into the destruction of global warming. (In North American history, this appeared as colonialism: terra nullius and the Doctrine of Discovery, another route to global destruction as is being played out in the present.)

So it follows that the antidote for insecurity is the resurrection of community. It seems almost heretical to say that, after the massive outpouring of veneration for Brian Mulroney as the Father of International Trade, but I believe the outpouring was for him as a man who had the courage of his convictions, rather than for the wisdom of those convictions, given the burgeoning inequality they midwifed.

And if it's so, that community destroys insecurity, we have an advantage as a small rural community for whom building self-sufficiency is rememberable history. We had a little sip of that in the early days of the pandemic, when the government did what I think governments are supposed to do, look after the basic needs of its people, and provided what amounted to a Guaranteed Annual Income. We re-acquainted ourselves with challenge and joy of our kitchens. We prioritized our social connections and invested in the care of others. We bundled up and socialized in fresh air. We found ways to be entertained without spending money. We stayed close to home. We gave the environment a break.

We 'discovered' – or maybe uncovered is the better word, as in exposing a repressed secret – that loneliness kills. Of course capitalism wants to monetize that discovery, wants to sell the cure -- for a profit. But the truth is that human connection, caring for others, is not an easily commodifiable product. We can create the conditions under which it happens, but we can't make people click. It happens or it doesn't: that's the human part, the part that AI can simulate but not produce. A robot pet may be better than nothing, but it's not a solution to loneliness, it's not going to build community, it's not going to go a-commoning.

Did you know commoning is a verb? It means to act for the wellbeing of the community. Who is going to go a-commoning? We are, if we choose. Insecurity, community, lemme see, which feels like how I wanna be? Hmm, I think community sounds a bit enticing, don't you?



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Everything ICF hosts first hands-on training day

by VIVIAN COLLINGS
Times Staff

Marty McCartney instructs the group at an Algonquin Highlands ICF build on Thursday, April 18. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Mac Todd installs fibreglass rebar into one of the walls.

Insulating concrete foam (ICF) is becoming an increasingly popular way to build thanks to its strength, energy efficiency, and durability.

Completely different from framed construction, the world of ICF is fairly new to many builders and homeowners.

Everything ICF, an Algonquin Highlands-based business that supplies ICF products throughout Ontario, recently offered a free hands-on training day at a new build to teach 30 attendees about the most effective ICF practices.

"While ICF has become popular in the modern construction landscape, there's still a lot of work to be done regarding creating a better understanding of the benefits of the product and how it works," said Doug Wood, Everything ICF co-owner. "Our focus is on providing a better way to build highly efficient multi-generational homes, and a big part of that is education."

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, most ICF training programs have been online seminars.

Wood said the best way to understand ICF is to see the installation process on-site.

"The seminars managed to cover a lot, but it didn't give people the hands-on experience that really brings everything together," Wood said. "We created a safe space for people to practice and make mistakes while making sure no major problems occurred on this site. Everyone who participated really appreciated the opportunity."

The eight-hour day consisted of theory and product knowledge in the morning before the group split up into smaller teams to get building.

Lunch for everyone was catered by Gangster Cheese, an Uxbridge-based food truck.

Wood said some of the attendees were contractors hoping to learn more about ICF installation, some were homeowners planning to build with ICF themselves, and others were manufacturing representatives wanting to learn about their custom engineered slab packages.

"Everyone who wanted to participate got a chance to work on the different tasks involved with building an ICF home. We covered how to properly stack blocks, where to place rebar for above-grade walls and the role it plays in structural integrity, fastening the wall together using a hook system, which tools work best with ICF and fibreglass rebar, and cutting and fitting window and door frames," he said.

Since receiving positive feedback from the first training day on April 18, Everything ICF has more in the works.

"We're now hoping to host the majority of our training days on actual build sites, and we're working out a couple of new ideas," Wood said. "We have a lot of interest in how our ICF roof system works, so we're going to try and setup another training day for that near the end of May."

More information can be found on everythingicf.ca.

To get in touch with Everything ICF, call the office at 705-306-4911 or email doug@everythingicf.ca.

"We'd like to give a huge thanks to everyone that attended and to Gangster Cheese and Alleguard for helping us pull this off," Wood said. "We can't wait to get out there again."

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Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Community Yard Sale Registration
When: now until spots are filled
Where: 20 George Street, Haliburton
Spaces are now available to rent, Hosted by North Entrance Masonic Lodge. Rent a space, bring your table, and sell your stuff! Rentals begin at $15. Spots are limited. For more info or to book your spot contact Rob Parish at 705-935-1921 or robparish707@yahoo.ca

Scottish Country Dancing
When: Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9 p.m.
Where: Haliburton United Church, 10 George St.
Come One! Come All! Join us for a multigenerational, lively, rockin' good time! You don't have to be Scottish to enjoy Scottish Country Dancing. Beginners are always welcome, no partner required. Please bring soft soled indoor shoes. In order to plan the dances for the evening please RSVP to haliburtonscottishcountrydance@gmail.com byTuesday evening. $5 per person, per evening.

Sunday Friends Drop-In
When: April 28, Noon to 3 p.m.
Where: Sirch Bistro, 49 Maple Ave. Haliburton
LGBTQ+ Senior and Allies, please join us for the first 'Sunday Friends' drop-In. Light lunch provided, donations appreciated! Share a story, make a friend! Register with Zeffy on Facebook, Aging Together as Community, or peterfquinton@gmail.com by April 22. Do you need transportation? Sponsored by ATAC, partnering with Minden Pride and Sirch.

Finding Your Power
When: Tuesday, April 30 at 7:30 pm
Where: Schofield Room, Haliburton Legion, 719 Mountain St.
You are invited to a discussion with Fay Martin, author, organizer and activist (faymartin.ca), about Finding Your Power as part of a series on "Making our Communities Better Places", preceded by music with Gord Kidd. Open to all, no admission charge, light refreshments provided. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Stanhope and Community Fly-In to Spring
When: May 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Where: 1168 Stanhope Airport Rd, Algonquin Highlands
Bring the entire family to the 2024 Fly-In to Spring event! See antique and classic aircraft, enjoy a variety of food and drinks, and see model aeroplanes, firetrucks and MNR displays. Aeroplane and helicopter rides available. For more information contact Steve Dewey at sdewey@algonquinhighlands.ca

Village Vendor Market
When: May 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Where: Kinmount Fairgrounds, County Rd 503
Stop in to visit a wide variety of vendors and artisans to purchase crafts, homemade products, baked goods, kitchen stuff, home decor and so much more! If you are interested in being a vendor or if you would like more information email villagevendormarkets@gmail.com or call Lois at 705-928-5665.

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Health unit secures its information

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The IT services at the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit is cybersecurity centric.

Matthew Vrooman, the health unit's corporate services director, told the board of health when it met April 18 that the unit adopted a Zero Trust Model when it comes to the security of its data.

He said the motto is "never trust, always verify."

The model is an integrated proactive approach to security across all layers of the digital estate to verify every transaction. It relies on intelligence, advanced detection, and real-time response to threats.

"At all times you're going to assume that you're compromised and so there's a layer of technological controls that help manage at every layer how much damage that (hacker) can do," he said.

Phishing email scams lure users into opening an attachment or following a link to another webpage.

"In a nutshell, they're looking to steal or harvest data," said Vrooman. "They're looking for data that might be valuable that they can resell. Or they're looking at something like ransomware where they lock down your system and it's pay to get your system back."

The health unit's system has layers of device control that ensures that, even if you have the right credentials, if you don't have the same device, you still can't access, he said. Permission is lined to credentials and device compatibility.

As recently as five years ago, the unit was operating with the lowest level of cybersecurity.

> They're looking for data that might be valuable that they can resell.
>
> — MATTHEW VROOMAN, CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTOR

"It's a credit to HKPR and the board to have matured our posture over the course of the last number of years as we have moved to update things like asset control (and) multi-factor authentication," Vrooman said.

That multi-factor authentication ensures against network access if the user's phone isn't directly beside the computer terminal. If a user is trying to get network access from outside HKPR, a verification code will be sent to the user's phone to be entered and prove the user's credentials.

Cecil Ryall, a member of the board, is deputy mayor of Highlands East and a member of Haliburton County council. He said the county has some of those same security features.

There have been complaints from people who don't like having to carry two phones: their personal phone and a county phone that will allow access to the county network.

"IT (staff) have just basically said, very politely, such it up because the risk is so high it's not even funny," Ryall said.

Snowmobilers support diabetes eduction

The Haliburton County Snowmobile Association has gifted $2,000 to Haliburton Highlands Health Services for diabetes education. The hospital will use the funds to purchase a doppler to assist the Diabetes Education Team in treatment. A doppler is a device that measure blood flow in patients. The HCSA turned one of its trail groomers into a fundraising machine, turning tracks on The Rail Trail, TOP B103 raising one dollar for each hour of grooming time and topping it up with volunteer cash donations, and a bottle drive. HCSA President Neil Vanderstoop said, "With the poor winter that challenged us, it was great to see the team pull together to raise money for this project." This is the forth year the HCSA has supported a small local charity. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

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The government has simplified the eligibility criteria to make it easier for homeowners to qualify.

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Gettin' a kick out of soccer

The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School girls soccer team was hard at work practicing drills on the HHSS Gary Brohman Field last week to prepare for their upcoming games. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

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Razzamatazz brings Dancers of Damelahamid to Haliburton

THOMAS SMITH
Staff Reporter

Spirit and Tradition by Dancers of Damelahamid will be performed on Saturday April 27th at 3:30 p.m. at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton. Dancers of Damelahamid is a professional Indigenous dance group from the northwest coast of British Columbia. /Submitted

On Saturday April 21, Dancers of Damelahamid will be performing in Haliburton County for the first time ever. An Indigenous dance group from the Northwest Coast of British Columbia, the Dancers of Damelahamid have revitalized songs and dances that were at one time threatened from the Potlach ban. Emerging in the 1960s, the Dancers of Damelahamid was formed to ensure the preservation of these cultural practices.

Their Haliburton show will be the last show of the season.

"Their show, called Spirit and Tradition, promises dramatic dance, intricate masks and elaborate regalia. Through drumming, soundscape and projected imagery, you'll find yourself immersed in the vibrant Indigenous culture of the BC Northwest Coast," says Nicole Stewart, chair of Razzamatazz Kids' Shows.

"Spirit and Tradition's key themes are reciprocity and ecological sustainability, and conveying important cultural teachings on balance, interconnectedness and community. The dance will share Indigenous knowledge and artistic practices, while immersing the audience in the rich and diverse ecosystem of the coastal mountains and oceans."

"Razzamataz Kids' Shows! is dedicated to bringing high-quality, affordable and culturally diverse performances to children and families in Haliburton. As Indigenous dance was banned for nearly 70 years in Canada, we are proud to bring Spirit and Tradition and Dancers of Damelahamid to the community to advance public knowledge, education and appreciation of Indigenous art, history and language, through dance and song."

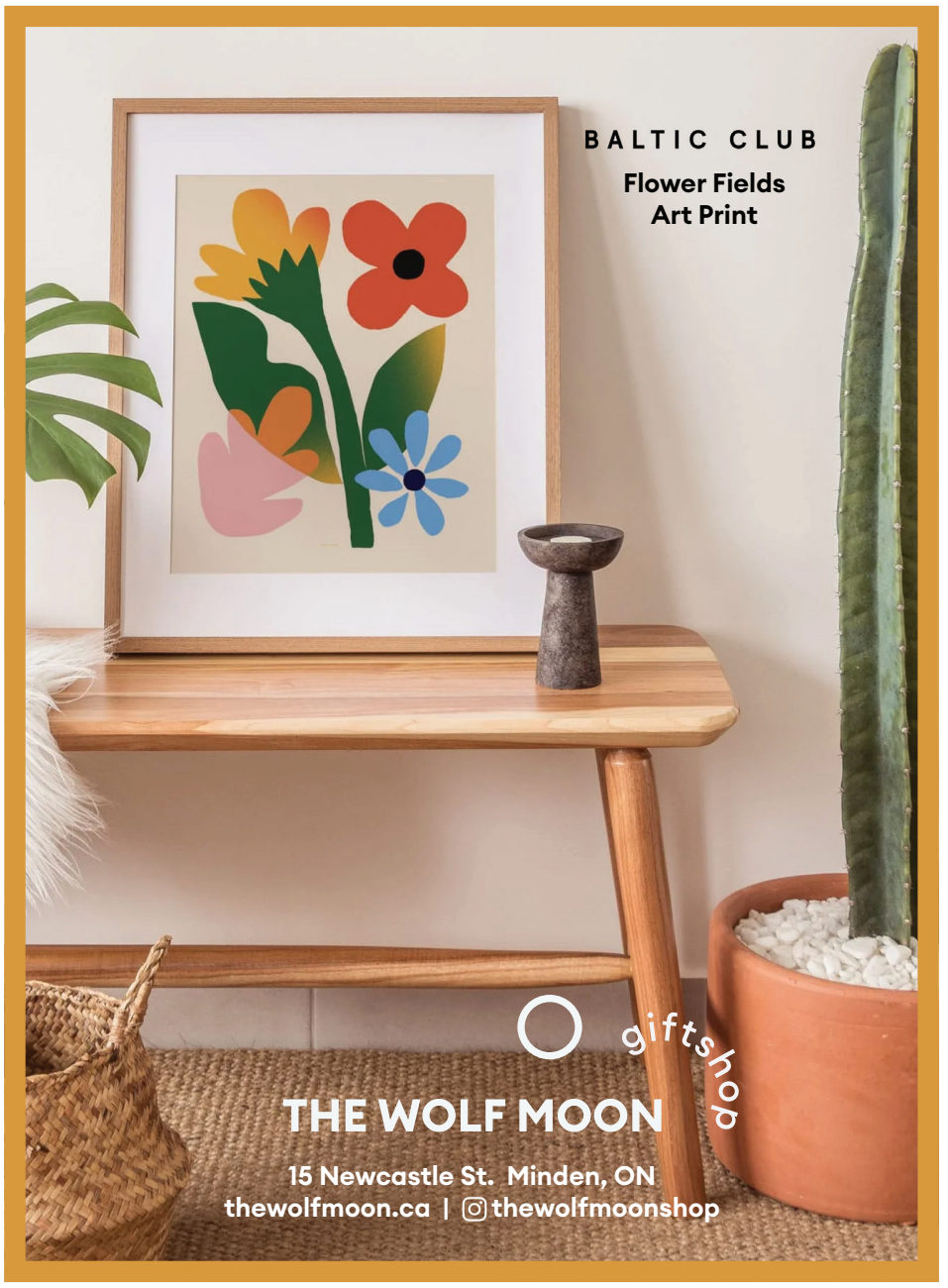
Spirit and Tradition had been performed around Canada and the rest of the world including China, Germany, Ecuador and Scotland.

"Razzamataz is proud to bring it to Haliburton for children and families in the community," says Stewart.

Spirit and Tradition, performed by the Dancers of Damelahamid is taking place on Saturday April 27, 3:30 p.m. at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton. For those who are interested, please purchase tickets online at razzamataz.ca to avoid disappointment at the door. Tickets are $7 for kids and $10 for adults. More information on the Dancers of Damelahamid can be found at damelahamid.ca

Razzamatazz Kids' Shows would like to thank our funders The Government of Canada, The Government of Ontario and the Ontario Arts Council for their generosity.

"Without their funding support our work would not be possible," says Stewart.



Guitarists thrill Haliburton

Don Ross and Kent Nishimura took the stage at the Music Room in Haliburton on Saturday. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

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				3			2	5
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1								3
2	9		7					
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		8			2			

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 17

SUMMER GUIDE MAGAZINE IS COMING SOON!

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The Haliburton Sculpture Forest is accepting applications for a Summer Program and Outreach Co-ordinator. This position is supported through the Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations. Detailed job description is available at www.haliburtonsculptureforest.ca Deadline for applications is April 26, 2024, 5:00pm

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Two positions available for Housekeeping and Laundry.
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Expected Start date: April 1, 2024
Candidates must enjoy working outside. A typical work week is 40 hours with potential for overtime. Willing to take required government safety certifications such as WHMIS. Able to support a positive team environment. Salary Range: Both Housekeeping/Laundry and Maintenance/Grounds keeping: $17.50 - $19.50 per hour based on experience. **Submit resume by email to Jay@camptimberlane.ca**

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U-Links is looking for an enthusiastic, self-directed individual to work with our community-based research team. Under the supervision of the U-Links Program Coordinator and the U-Links Director, you will be responsible for coordinating the Water Quality Pilot Program and assisting with the Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch program as well as supporting other research projects undertaken by U-Links.

The ideal candidate will have post-secondary education (environmental studies, environmental sciences, environmental tech, ecosystems management, biology, or related field) and field knowledge of ecological monitoring and biological sampling methods (OBBN certification and/or experience with vegetation sampling protocols are preferred).

This is a 1-year contract starting May 13th. Pay rate: $23/hr. Access to up to 5,000.00 in professional development funding, mileage compensation and a comprehensive benefits package are included for this position. For a full job description and the link to pre-qualify for EcoCanada, go to www.ulinks.ca

Email a detailed cover-letter and resume to admin@ulinks.ca by May 2nd, 23:59 EST.

This position is funded by EcoCanada. Candidates must be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or person granted refugee status in Canada, be eligible to work in Canada and be between the ages of 15-30 (inclusive) at the start of employment. To be eligible for EcoCanada internships you must be approved by EcoCanada. Go to www.eco.ca to pre-qualify.

Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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Are you passionate about the environment and keen to make a difference at the community level?
U-Links is looking for an enthusiastic, self-directed individual to work with our community-based research team. Under the supervision of the U-Links Program Coordinator and the U-Links Director, you will play a pivotal role in supporting the Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch program, along with contributing to various environmental research initiatives led by U-Links.

The ideal candidate will either have or be engaged in post-secondary education (environmental studies, environmental sciences, biology, or similar disciplines) and field knowledge of ecological monitoring and biological sampling methods (OBBN certification and/or experience with vegetation sampling protocols are preferred). Reliable access to a vehicle is required.

This is an 8-week contract from May 13th to July 8th, 2024 with the possibility of extension (up to 38 weeks) depending on funding. Compensation: $21/hour + mileage + vacation pay. For a full job description and more details go to www.ulinks.ca

Email a detailed cover-letter and resume to admin@ulinks.ca by May 2nd, 23:59 EST

This position is funded by Canada Summer Jobs. must be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or person granted refugee status in Canada, be eligible to work in Canada and be between the ages of 15-30 (inclusive) at the start of employment.

Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

645 CELEBRATION OF LIFE

A Celebration of Life

John James Strange and Mary Catherine Strange
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at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle Street, Minden.

Refreshments will be served following the Celebration Service. In lieu of flowers and in keeping with the wishes of John and Mary Strange, please consider a donation to the Scott Mission, your local Food Bank or a charity of your choice. Please email Heather McIntosh at heather_mcintosh58@yahoo.ca of your intended attendance.

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Fire risk drops - concern continues

The fire risk in Haliburton County has been lowered from high to moderate since last Thursday's thundershowers, but the Ministry of Natural Resources' ban on open fires is still in effect across Ontario.

The storm dumped 25.6 mm of rain on dry county forests.

However the fire operations manager for the MNR Haliburton office, Tom Russell, said that unless more rain comes the fire risk could increase again.

Since last Tueday, May 12, it has been prohibited in most of the province to have any open fires. Barbeques and gas stoves are allowed.

In the last two weeks the Haliburton MNR fire centre has sent crews to 12 forest fires in the county. So far this spring they have put out 18 fires.

Because of the dry weather, the fires are much larger. The Union Creek fire near Kinmount on May 9 destroyed 200 acres of forest and brush and a fire in Stanhope the day before burned 18 acres.

Five local fire departments and two MNR crews fought the Union Creek blaze, which was started when a tree became tangled in a power line. It took them about 18 hours to get it under control.

In normal years the MNR crews are usually able to extinguish forest fires before they've burned an acre. This year however, the average blaze has consumed 20 acres before being put out.

To make work easier for the ministry fire crews and to save our forests, county residents are asked to be extremely careful with fire.

The recent rash of forest fires in the Minden MNR District prompted the ministry to station a helicopter at its Haliburton Fire Control Centre. The craft, seen here lifting off with a load of supplies, was used to survey fires in progress, the extent of damage, assist in bringing fire crews to the blazes and help in dousing the flames by water bombing the fires. For a report on the forest fire situation, see page 10.

HHSS athletes once again turned in a superior performance at the COSSA championships held May 7 in Peterborough. These students will now advance to Eastern Ontario finals this week in Ottawa. Among the qualifiers are, from the left, front row, Darren Warburton and Gavin McKnight. Second row, Ted Paish, Lori-Ann Duguay, Blake Callard. Third row, Marty Andrews, Lesley Tashlin, Ron Perrin. Back row, Alex Little, John Vanderhorst, Trevor Powers and Darren Whittaker. For a complete report on the athletes' activities see page 14.

Property owners object to Kushog development

The Kushog Lake Property Owners' Association has expressed concern about the proposed Beau Valley resort development.

In a letter to Stanhope council, the president of the association, Norma Goodger said property owners of Kushog Lake had expressed "a wide variety of concerns" when informed of the details of the proposed development.

Goodger said in her letter, "it is imperative that our association be kept informed of any changes in zoning on Kushog Lake."

Minden resident Joe Warder announced last January that he was planning to develop Beau Valley farms, a riding stable on the Queen's Line, into a resort complex including a lodge, an archery range, an arena, a trout pond, and a waterfront recreation area on Lake Kushog.

Warder estimated the cost of the development at about 10 million dollars.

However, since agreeing to the proposal in principle last winter, neither Stanhope nor Anson, Hindon and Minden councils have heard anything more from Warder.

At the Stanhope council meeting last Wednesday reeve Harry Davis said he thought Goodger's concerns about the Beau Valley

(more on page 3)

Students begin SADD chapter

One thing Tracy Miscio and Donna Ireland want to get straight is that they're not against drinking. But what they don't like is people who drink and drive.

The two Haliburton Highlands Secondary School grade 11 students are firm on this point and to get it across to the rest of the community, they've formed SADD, also known as Students Against Drunk Driving.

The purpose of the group is to publicize the problem of drunk driving and in this way, to encourage people to stop it.

Membership in SADD is open to everyone at the High School.

"We want make people aware of what's happening, says Tracy. "We want them to realize that no one has the right to take someone else's life just because they're drunk."

The two students got the idea to start the group in their Man and Society class about a month ago.

(more on page 3)

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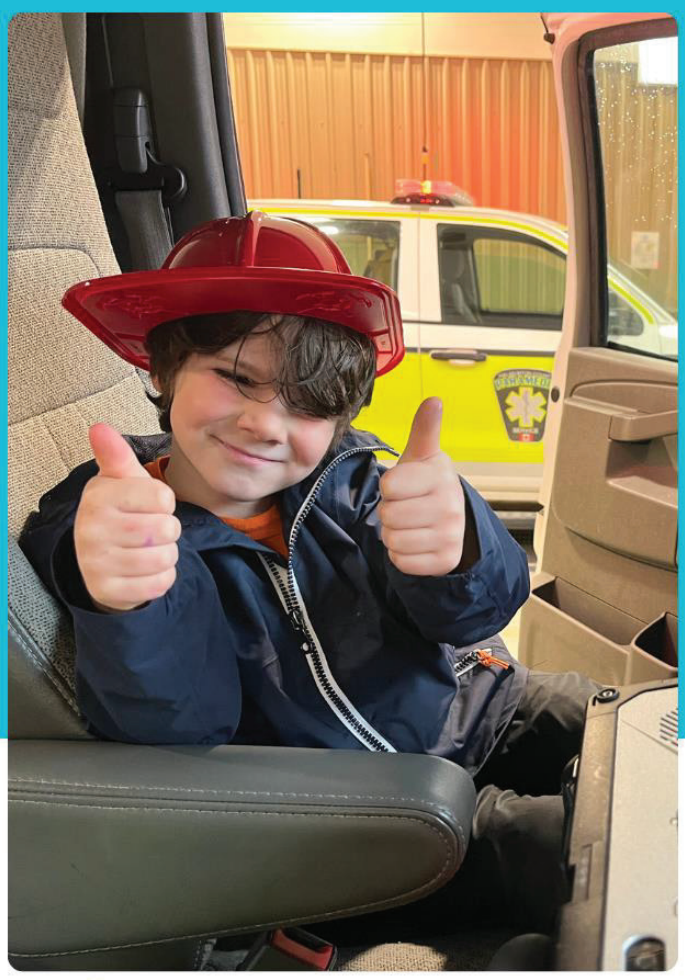

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